

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Hiroaki NAKAI et al.)
) Group Art Unit:
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned)
) Examiner:
Filed: August 28, 2003)
)
For: OBSTACLE DETECTION)
DEVICE AND METHOD)
THEREFOR)

**Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

The following are listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 and are in a non-English language:

1. Japanese Patent Disclosure KOKAI 2002-352225 discloses a method of how candidate regions for obstacles can be set in the invention.

2. Japanese Patent Disclosure KOKAI Publication No. 2001-76128

3. Japanese Patent Disclosure KOKAI Publication No. 2000-293693

Documents 2 and 3 disclose a method to calculate parameters for transformation between two stereo images. The parameters are the basic components on the obstacle detection of the invention. The relevance of documents 2 and 3 is also discussed starting at page 3, line 20 of the specification of the present application.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

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If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.



Dated: August 28, 2003

By: 
Richard V. Burgujian
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Enclosures
RVB/FPD/pan

ERNEST F. CHAPMAN*
(*ADMITTED IN D.C. ONLY)

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	05595.0014	Serial No.	
Applicant	Hiroaki NAKAI et al.		
Filing Date	August 28, 2003	Group:	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial*		Document Number	Issue Date (Pub. Date)	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
		2002/0191837 A1	(12/19/2002)	Takeda et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
		2001-76128	03/23/2001	Japan			no
		2000-293693	10/20/2000	Japan			no
		2002-352225	12/06/2002	Japan			no

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	
	Hiroshi HATTORI et al., "Stereo Without Depth Search and Metric Calibration", Proceedings of IEEE Computer Society Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition, CVPR 2000, pp 177-184 (2000)

Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce